

EUROPE DISCUSSES DUELS.

DIFFERENCES IN "AFFAIRS OF HONOR" IN FRANCE AND GERMANY.

Continuation of France in an Effort to Please the Sultan.—The Turkish Reform Association—Psychical Views of the French Prophecy.—Prof. Dewar's Investigation.

LONDON, April 18.—The practice and ethics of duelling have been discussed by all classes in Europe this week. The encounter which cost Baron Schröder his life, and the farcical affair between Prince Sagan and Playwright Hermann have, of course, furnished the text of the discussion. The difference between an "affair of honor" in Germany and a French duel is precisely the difference between a melodrama and a burlesque. The Turkish Reform Association, which is a serious thing, not only in itself but also in what it signifies of the condition of society which is practically controlled by a military code.

The most important factor in the situation in Germany, as I called this week, is the outspoken support of the code duello. Nor is it in the army alone that the institution is firmly established. The last time it was in Heidelberg—about two years ago—the students who proudly paraded the streets, swathed in bandages, as the result of desperate encounters with naked foils, were as numerous as ever. Duelling is as inextinguishable a rule of conduct under certain circumstances in the upper classes as any social law in the land. It is not resorted to over trifles, as in France; the thing itself and its consequences are too serious for that.

A Berlin friend of mine who happened to be in London the other day showed me one of the finest cigarette cases I have ever seen. It was of gold, ornamented with large diamonds and rubies, and it must have cost a small fortune. It was the gift of a man high in Berlin society, who has recently narrowly escaped being obliged to appear on "the field of honor." He became involved in a mess, which according to ordinary procedure would have resulted in a duel and the publicity which would have been given to the affair. The man in question would have been socially disastrous to all concerned. The delicate management and diplomacy which it was necessary to employ in order to avoid "honorably" an appeal to the code, which neither party to the quarrel desired, were something astonishing. The result was accomplished after infinite difficulty and one of the principals was only too glad to bestow a valuable trinket upon the friend who had managed the affair for him.

The code is thus a constant menace, and many of its advocates are by no means as fond of it as they pretend to be. But nobility in military or court life dare not renounce it. Its motives would be instantly misconstrued should he do so. It would require greater courage to refuse a challenge than to accept one. The fatal result of the Kotze-Schröder duel will not be sufficient to alter this state of things. Nothing short of a vigorous change in the military and court life of the Emperor will suffice to accomplish that, and nobody believes that the Emperor will make any such concession to the righteous opinion of the masses of his subjects.

No greater disgrace and humiliation have been put upon France since she became nominally a republic than she suffered a week ago at the hands of the Radical Ministry, when they ordered the expulsion of Ahmed Riza at the request of the Sultan. Riza, who was the illegitimate son of the Sultan, was educated in France, and, having returned to his own country, was made inspector of schools. It was, it appears certain, the educational reforms proposed by him which brought him into disgrace with the Sultan. Ahmed Riza, who was the illegitimate son of the Sultan, was educated in France, and, having returned to his own country, was made inspector of schools. It was, it appears certain, the educational reforms proposed by him which brought him into disgrace with the Sultan. Ahmed Riza, who was the illegitimate son of the Sultan, was educated in France, and, having returned to his own country, was made inspector of schools. It was, it appears certain, the educational reforms proposed by him which brought him into disgrace with the Sultan.

Riza received on Friday of last week a note from the Prefecture of Police, asking him to call without delay at that office. He responded at once, and was received by Secretary-General Paybarand, who, as Riza describes him, was "as nice as he could be throughout the interview." The Secretary came to the point, at once. He took up from his desk a recent copy of the *Mecherret*, and said that its contents had given great offence to the Sultan, who had informed the French Embassy in Paris of the fact. M. Paybarand then explained that it was illegal in France to attack the Sultan, and that when and where the victim of such an attack complained, the French Government was bound to protect him. Thereupon the Secretary requested, on behalf of the Government, that Riza would leave Paris before the evening of the following Monday. In order that he might not be put to serious inconvenience by this interference with his plans, the Secretary begged him to accept the sum of \$200 toward the expenses of removal.

The Turk declined the offer of money, with some indignation. He suggested that the police should make inquiry into his antecedents in order to ascertain if he was a fit person to enjoy the privileges of the free institutions of a republic. The Secretary replied at once that this was quite needless and useless. He suggested, however, that it was not necessary for M. Riza to sell his furniture and abandon the place which he occupied. The police would take special care that his property was not interfered with in his absence. This seemed an intimation that his expulsion was only temporary, but the police functionary would say no more on this point. The Turk left the prefecture without saying whether he would leave the country voluntarily or would wait until the authorities enforced their edict by compulsion. He finally decided on the latter course. He wrote to the Prime Minister, demanding an audience, and to the Prefect of Police, saying that he would leave France only after a formal investigation had been conducted to the frontier by the police.

The publicity which the affair quickly obtained made it speedily manifest that such an outrage against the first principles of liberty of thought and action would bring the republicanism of France into contempt throughout the world. It cropped out also that one of the reasons why M. Berthelot is no longer Minister of Foreign Affairs is that he steadily refused to do what M. Bourgeois agreed to. Both the Turkish and Russian Ambassadors, it is said, urged M. Berthelot to grant the Sultan's request to surrender Riza to him. "Justice," he replied, "is to expel him from the country, but Berthelot sturdily refused on principle. Now the clever but unprincipled Bourgeois is trying to make it appear that he really didn't intend to expel Riza, but only to suppress his paper. Even this has been done in an ineffective way. There are two editions of the *Mecherret*, one in French and the other in Turkish, intended for circulation in the two countries respectively. The French Government has forbidden the circulation of the Turkish edition in France, a point on which of course, no party can object. The distribution of the journal, though it may answer the purpose of technically complying with the Sultan's request.

Even this action is based in point of principle. It is one of the first applications of

the arbitrary press-law passed during the anarchy some two years ago. Under their provision, the Government has practically arbitrary power to suspend the liberty of the press at any moment and for any purpose. It is a sufficiently dramatic spectacle that the first use of these despotic powers should be made by a Radical-Socialist government at the dictation of the vilest tyrant who sits upon a throne.

The spectacle has aroused William Wason to add another to the series of sonnets upon the crimes in the Purple East. His rebuke to France is not less scathing-like than his condemnation of Abdul the Damned.

When, from supreme disaster, France arose,

And, like a great wings, and faced the world anew,

Who, if not we, rejected at heart to view

Her proud resistance after midnight rose?

When 'neath the anarchy's knife we saw the close

Of a man's day, and our weeping who?

Went it not we, for the just men and true

That masked his strength in monstrous repose?

And now again we mourn, but not with her,

Nay, not with her, though for her—mourn to see

A tyrant, her most perfect mirror—see

A man bent, sun him in her countenance;

And Freedom, whose impassioned name was France,

Lies soiled and desecrated by France the Free.

um, and other elements of high density. The combinations so formed are called carbides. Their most remarkable feature is the way they break up or decompose when placed in water, giving rise immediately to hydrocarbon gases, which chemists have been trying in vain for generations to prepare otherwise than by roundabout and costly processes.

Prof. Dewar took the simplest case—carbide of calcium, which he prepared by mixing together lime and powdered graphite (carbon) and fusing them in the furnace. This carbide is a gray fused mass. Throw it into water and it immediately generates acetylene, a gas which is rapidly coming into use for illuminating purposes, since it gives a light eight times more brilliant than coal gas, and is little more than the incandescent lamp. Hitherto this gas has been little more than a chemical curiosity prepared only by costly and roundabout processes. But this is not all. If you pass the acetylene gas through a red-hot tube, the gas begins to glow as if it were on fire inside the tube, and you are manufacturing "neon," the basis from which all aniline dyes are prepared, and the parent of the hundreds of valuable substances which are known generally as coal tar derivatives. Hitherto benzol has been prepared by long and complex processes from coal tar. Finally Prof. Dewar spoke of some other furnace carbides, and their behavior when placed in water, which is strange. Carbide of aluminum gives off marsh gas, but the carbides of cerium, uranium, and other rare metals of great density give off nothing less than crude petroleum.

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